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### **As school begins, Police Chief reminds drivers to be aware of school zones and crosswalks**

Estes Park public schools are back in session and that means more pedestrians along Estes Park roadways. Police Chief Wes Kufeld reminds drivers to obey speed limits and to pay special attention to pedestrians at crosswalks. Chief Kufeld commented, "We all need to share the road and take responsibility for the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists in our community." He continued, "While our police officers are actively enforcing these reduced speed limits, we rely on drivers to be fully aware of their surroundings."

School zones are clearly marked with signs indicating speed limits. While some signs advise drivers of a reduced speed limit when children are present, other signs flash a yellow light to advise drivers of reduced speed limits. Exact times vary, but signs generally flash on school days between 7:15 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. and from 2:50 p.m. until 3:40 p.m. During these times, the speed limit in the school zone along Highway 7 is reduced to 25 miles per hour while side street speed limits are reduced to 20 miles per hour. Fines for speeding in a school zone are doubled.

Even when school is out of session, drivers must watch for pedestrians at crosswalks, which are marked with lines on the roadway and bright yellow signage. Vehicles are required by law to stop for pedestrians at marked crosswalks; fines are doubled for disregarding a school zone crosswalk. Chief Kufeld commented, "People tend to forget about the numerous crosswalks on Highway 7." Along Highway 7, crosswalks are positioned just south of U.S. 36 and at the intersections of First Street, Manford Avenue, Graves Avenue, Morgan Street, Lexington Lane and Pine Knoll Drive.

For more information, please contact the Town of Estes Park Public Information Office at 970-577-3701. To receive Town news in your email inbox, please email [townadmin@estes.org](mailto:townadmin@estes.org). For more Town of Estes Park news, please visit [www.estes.org/news](http://www.estes.org/news).

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